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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH | VOL. LXVIII, ISSUE 84 | APRIL 4, 2017

D49er

Matthew Teel | Daily 49er

Students protest against the impending tuition increase outside the Office of the Chancellor in Long Beach on March 22.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tuition increase still not enough

Despite tuition increase, budget shortfall will persist unless state apportions more money to CSU.

By Valerie Osier and Chrystina Schwartz
Staff Writers

The California State University Board of Trustees voted on March 22 to increase tuition by 5 percent, but the tuition increase won't entirely fix the support budget shortfall; the CSU still needs over $90 million of additional funding from the state. While students will be paying more, there is no guarantee that the state will provide funding for the rest of the deficit.

The approval to charge students an additional $270-438 annually, based on graduate level, in tuition will only cover less than half the total amount of the $167.7 million shortcoming, according to data given to the Daily 49er by Ted Kadowaki, associate vice president of budget and university services.

In November, the CSU submitted its budget request of $343.7 million of additional funding for the 2017-18 year to the state of California and in January, Gov. Jerry Brown released his proposed state budget and gave the CSU $157.2 million of additional funding. If this is all the CSU gets, it will need to use that for compensation for existing faculty and staff contracts and mandatory cost increases for healthcare and other benefits, which cost $139.1 million and $26 million, respectively.

"That means we have no money at all for the graduation initiative, which is more classes and more faculty to get students through quicker, no money at all for any enrollment growth, no money at all for compensation for employees who don't have existing contracts and no money for academic facilities and infrastructure," Kadowaki said.

According to CSU spokesman Michael Uhlenkamp, the new revenue is already earmarked to alleviate the need for the graduation initiative, but not the rest.

"Of the revenue provided by the tuition increase, about $77.5 million, it goes specifically to the Graduation Initiative 2025, which means we're hiring more

see **HIKE**, page 2

Nov. 2016	CSU support budget request	**$343.7 million**
Jan. 2017	California funding plan	$157.2 million
	Est. revenue from enrollment growth	+ $18.8 million
March 2017	CSU needs	$167.7 million
	5% tuition hike	- $77.5 million
	CSU still needs	**$90.2 million**

Info: CSU Board of Trustees 2017-18 Budget Request

LONG BEACH

Without a drought

Water restrictions to remain despite record rainfalls.

By Collin James
Contributing Writer

After a winter of record-breaking rain falls, flash floods and fresh snowpacks, it may appear as if California's water woes are a thing of the past. But don't start taking hour-long showers or watering your lawn in the middle of the day – the state's water suppliers and the City of Long Beach will continue to enforce conservation measures this summer.

"Long Beach continues to have seasonal and permanent water use restrictions in effect," said Kaylee Weatherly, the public information officer for the Long Beach Water Department.

LBWD is treating this year's surge in rainfall as an exception to the drought and will not be reversing water restrictions this coming summer. Long Beach remains in a Stage 1 drought, as per the Board of Water Commissioners, with businesses and homes still having restrictions on what days they can water their lawns or wash their cars. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is also continuing a $4.5 million public outreach campaign to promote water conservation.

"We are going to continue to provide the regional outreach messaging for efficient water use," MWD's Manager of Water Policy Brandon Goshi said. Although MWD does not have data for 2016, California residents saved roughly 30 gallons of water per person from the start of the drought to 2015, according to its website.

Prior to last winter, the National Weather Service had forecasted another dry winter for Southern California, but multiple record breaking rain storms have proven that prediction wrong. According to a three-month outlook for the months of November, December and January, Southern California was expected to be exceptionally dry. It predicted a repeat of patterns seen in La Nina years which typically result in drier weather patterns, especially south of San Francisco along the West Coast. This was not the case, as Southern California received double digit levels of precipitation.

"The temperature pattern through the U.S. was consistent with La Nina, but the precipitation impacts [and] locations were not, particularly in California," Maureen O'Leary of the National Oceanic

see **WATER**, page 3

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Give blood, get a burger

CSULB students can help patients in local hospitals through on-campus blood drive.

By Ammi Ruiz
Staff Writer

Students can choose to donate blood on campus this week as part of the annual LifeStream Blood Drive. The event will be held from 12-5 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday on the second floor of the University Student Union.

All donors will receive a $5 In-N-Out gift card and an optional free cholesterol screening.

The blood drive is being hosted in partnership with the Student Life and Development department and the California Nursing Student Association.

Only about eight people have signed up for the event, according to event organizer and representative for LifeStream, Adam Botello.

Botello believes Spring Break may have hindered the amount of people who are aware the event is taking place, but organizers are still preparing and hoping for a much larger turnout.

LifeStream must obtain about 500 blood donations a day to deliver to their 80 hospital partners located in the Southern California area.

"It can be pretty challenging trying to get that many donations, and trying to find locations to do donations is very difficult, so I appreciate our partnership [with Cal State Long Beach]," Botello said in a phone interview.

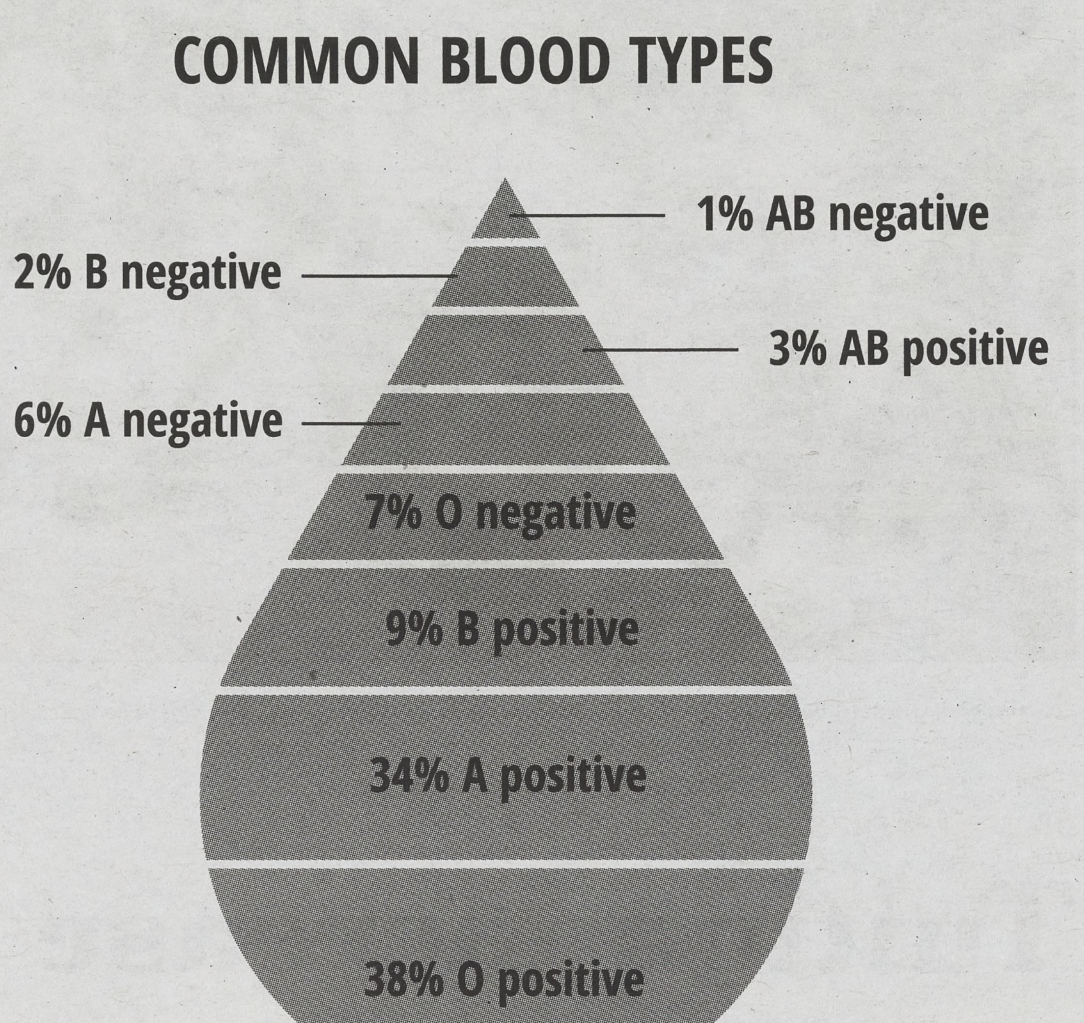
"Our goal is to get at least 65 people each day [from the CSULB blood drive.] That's typically what we've collected in the past on this campus. If we hit out goal for each day we'll be able to help almost 400 people. The need for blood is constant, and it never ends," Botello said.

"People think, 'If I donate blood I'm just going to help one person.' With one donation you can actually help three different people," he said.

According to the LifeStream website, one pint of blood is separated into three primary components, which consist of red blood cells, plasma and platelets.

The donations are used to help a variety of patients including cancer patients, heart surgery patients and trauma victims.

Students can register for the event online at https://giftoflife.lstream.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/65609 or by calling 1 (800)-879-4484. Walk-ins will also be available.


COMMON BLOOD TYPES

Info: LifeStream
Graphic by Jade Inglada

HIKE

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Matthew Teel | Daily 49er

Students gather to protest against the tuition increase on March 22.

faculty and offering more classes and reducing time to degree," he said.

During the spring, hearings will occur in Sacramento and in mid-May, Gov. Brown will send out the "May Revise." By the end of June, the governor will have to approve an official budget.

Unless Gov. Brown funds the CSU system with the amount they are asking for, the Board of Trustees' decision to increase tuition will stand.

"That mantra that students have come up with, 'the more we pay, the longer we stay,' I think that's right on point," Kadowaki said. "If we can get them out quicker by hiring more faculty, by offering more class sections, then the less they pay."

Members of the BOT who did not agree with the tuition increase tried putting forward the idea to delay the vote on the tuition hike, but with no other viable way to make up the money, the board was forced to make the decision to have students foot the bill until Gov. Brown releases the budget in June. If California funds the CSU to the amount needed, the BOT will rescind the tuition hike, according to Uhlenkamp.

"What's frustrating here is that we're so predictable," said Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom at the BOT meeting, in disagreement with the increase. "We did [the state's] bidding for them, we increased $77.5 million revenue … so now they're off the hook. We've become predictable and as a consequence, we continue to burden more and more debt on the backs of our students."

According to Kadowaki, the reason the vote on the tuition increase could not be delayed is because the CSU needs to cover the deficit now, while students are registering for next fall's classes and getting their financial aid packages.

Other than increasing state appropriations and hiking tuition, the only other option for addressing the shortfall is reducing costs, according to the Budget Report revised in December. Kadowaki said that Cal State Long Beach constantly analyzes and reviews their expenditures for places they can cut down.

"We've pretty much taken off all the fat off the bone, if you will," Kadowaki said. "We've made a lot of cuts, we eliminated a lot of things and we got down to the bare minimum. At this point, we're still looking for efficiencies, but we've implemented about as much as we can without severely impacting services and classes."

To cover the entire need, Kadowaki estimated that the tuition increase would've had to have been about double what it was. Uhlenkamp has assured that there is no way tuition will rise again this year. The rest of the $90 million will need to come from the state or the CSU will have to decide on more cuts.

"We will continue to advocate to meet with legislators and the governor to increase the budget," Uhlenkamp said. "The May Revise will happen, and the state department might say things are looking a bit rosier and fully fund us … We're absolutely concerned about [the $90 million needed] and if we don't receive it, then we'll have to make some tough decisions regarding enrollment growth, facilities and employee compensation."

One way the budget could turn out is that Gov. Brown could see the tuition increase as a permanent change and only give the difference of the shortfall on top of the amount already promised in the proposed budget.

"The hope is that between now and June, the governor provides the CSU with additional funding, thereby not needing that fee increase revenue," Kadowaki said. "The lobbying efforts are ongoing in Sacramento … If we can convince them that the dollar amount that they didn't fund from the request is priority, then they'll fund that."

Although this is the best case scenario for the CSU system, it is the least likely. Two years ago, CSUs got a budget increase to exactly what they requested and it will be hard to get another while competing with other agencies, Kadowaki said.

Part of the deficit comes as a result of the increase in faculty salaries last year. According to Kadowaki, the funding for the pay raises this year came from a reserve of one-time campus funds that are now depleted.

"All employees went without increases for quite a few years so frankly, we were losing a lot of talented faculty because of that. They were going elsewhere and getting a lot higher pay ... I don't think [the BOT] had a choice [in raising faculty salaries]."

According to Uhlenkamp, the CSU Employees Union, a group represents about 15,000 staff member across the 23 campuses, is in collective bargaining talks right now for their contract that expires in June and the budget deficit could disrupt that.

CSULB's share of the shortfall amounts to $999,003, according to the Budget Report.

CAMPUS VOICE

The current tuition increase will not cover even half of the budget deficit the California State University needs. What other options should the CSU try to make up the deficit?

"The state should do the funding. You're talking about the benefits on the school system – that's a state problem for higher education."

—Mark Zachau, sophomore, English education major

"We can cut back on things that aren't necessary, but I'm not exactly sure on what to do about tuition."

—Dacosta Collymore, junior, kinesiology major

"We should change the requirements for students [to be admitted to CSULB] so there are more students to pay for the tuition deficits."

—Alexia Sillas, freshman, psychology major

"I do agree with the tuition increase, it is for our benefit, too. Either way, hiking tuition is beneficial for the students."

—Annie Tu, junior, business major

WATER

continued from page 1

and Atmospheric Administration said.

As California's rainy season comes to an end, less than 3 percent of California suffers from a severe drought, compared to this time last year when that number was 63 percent, according to NWS data. Large swaths of the southern coast and the central valley remain under-watered, though, including Long Beach.

In 2017 alone, Long Beach has seen its rainfall records broken twice; first on Jan. 12 when more than 1.5 inches of rain fell, and the second was on Jan. 22 with over three inches. Other parts of the state experienced flooding in late February as well, including San Jose and San Diego.

"We welcome the rain showers down here and snowfall up north, and we recognize that this drying climate, and the extreme variability in weather, is our new normal," Weatherly said. "We need to continue to make permanent changes in water use efficiency."

Long Beach received unprecedented rain levels this winter, totalling 14 inches of rain between October and January, compared to only three inches during the same period in 2015-16. Water from state water projects, which includes Lake Oroville, contributes to Long Beach's water supply.

Long Beach also gets its water from groundwater and reservoirs in Southern California. Many of these reservoirs are at their highest levels since Governor Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency in 2014.

CSU Long Beach employs a Sustainability Task Force which has been working since 2014 to implement water saving measures on campus. These included replacing lawns with drought tolerant shrubs and fixing plumbing leaks. The task force's current project is replacing the showerheads in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center with ones that are more water efficient. Another lawn conversion is planned along Bellflower Boulevard.

"The recent rains are not changing any of our efforts on campus around water conservation." Paul Wingco, a member of the task force, said.

The Sustainability Task Force will be updating their water action plan this summer. On an average day, CSULB uses over half a million gallons of water, and the Sustainability Task Force says they are working to lower overall water waste.

The California legislature also voted to continue to enforce drought restriction at least until November 2017.

"We want residents and businesses to understand they don't need to know the weather to know whether or not to conserve," Weatherly said. "Maintaining a water efficient lifestyle will always be necessary."

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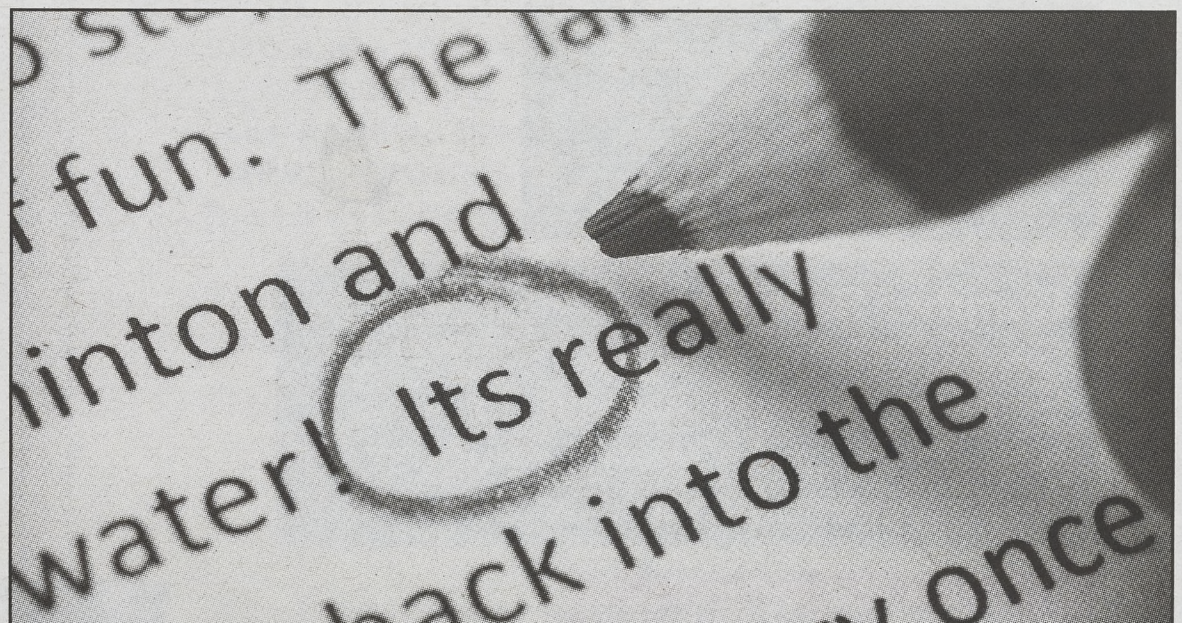

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FILM REVIEW

A captivating Netflix discovery

What happens when an A-list cast makes a movie never intended for the silver screen?

By Jason Enns
Arts & Life Editor

Netflix

Rooney Mara and Jason Segel co-star in the Netflix original drama, "The Discovery."

Netflix seems to be on a roll with original content starring comedic actors who started with Judd Apatow and made their way to pure drama. Movies belonging to this category can be hit or miss, but "The Discovery" is a hit.

The smart and imaginative drama, released March 31 exclusively on Netflix, left me wondering if I should classify it as science fiction or magical realism. One thing's for sure: it is a dark tale; one that raises existential questions like, "What happens after we die?" "What are your biggest regrets?" and "What would you sacrifice for your loved ones?"

To set the film, scientist Thomas Harbor (Robert Redford) is allowing his first interview since his revolutionary discovery, in which he proved there is an afterlife. He doesn't claim to know where human consciousness goes after death, just that it goes somewhere. In his terms: "When you see a train leave the station, do you have to know it's destination to know it's going somewhere?"

His discovery resulted in an extreme rise in suicide, all people trying to get "there," as it's referred to. Even during the interview, a stagehand commits an on-air suicide, cutting Harbor's first and last communication with the press short.

Fast forward two years later and the suicide toll has reached over 4 million and continues to go grow. We are introduced to Harbor's son Will (Jason Segel), who is haunted by his father's discovery and currently on a ferry to his father's island home.

Will is cynical and damaged making Segel, known for his comedy films, an interesting choice for the role. Though, I eventually realized he was perfect for the character. He has the face and acting moxie that makes emotions vivid in his expression without even saying a word. Since his character is so jaded we see very little of this, but when we do see it, it's enough the give you chills — or bring you to tears if you're a crier.

On the ferry, he encounters Isla (Rooney Mara) who is both sad and a little quirky in a way that gives viewers the sense she has nothing left to live for – nor does she want to.

At first I thought this film definitely had an agenda, whether it be promoting theism or atheism I wasn't sure. When Will first begins talking to Isla, he tells her about when his heart stopped beating as a child, and what he told his parents he saw while he was technically dead.

He then claims to have fabricated the story, and when asked why, he says, "I think it's our instinct to search for meaning, and when there is none we create meaning and we lie, we just lie to ourselves."

This came off to me as a clear assault on theism, but the very nature of the film suggests there is an afterlife, an assault against atheism.

I began to wonder how the movie would end without making a definitive statement about whether or not there is an afterlife, which, either way, is going to ruin it for half of audiences. Thankfully, they stay as far away as possible from giving the film religious undertones.

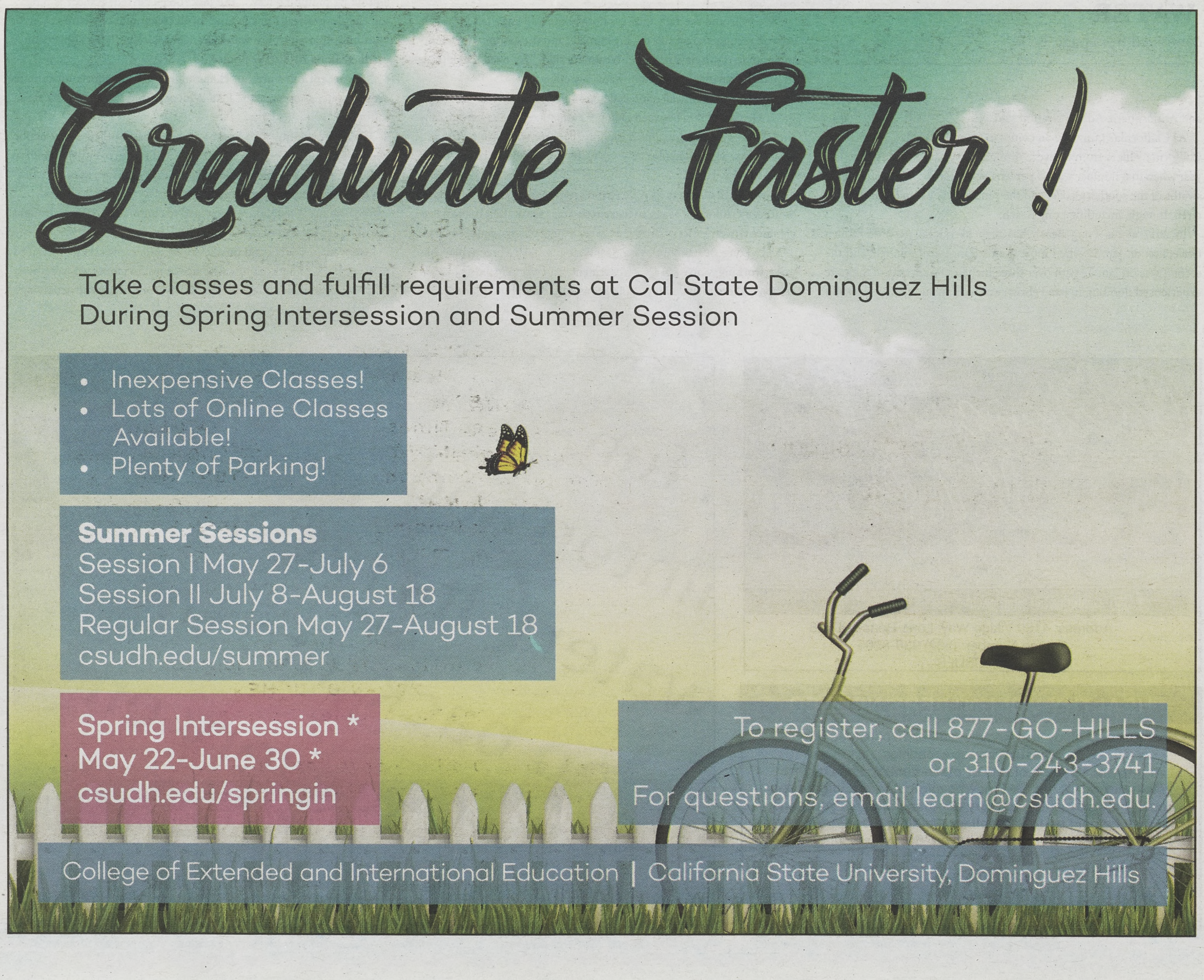
If the film is trying to make a statement, it is best summed up by a quote from Will to Isla: "I don't know what this is, but if there's a meaning to any of it, I think it's not hitting the reset button, even if things get really rough."

On the island, Harbor lives in a manor where he has essentially started a cult with Will's brother Toby (Jesse Plemons), consisting of people affected by the discovery who "needed to be given a purpose" — another seemingly slight jab at theism. But, like I said, this story isn't really about religion, it's about love, determination and the will to live.

As for the majority of the plot, I will leave that for your discovery — steal your friend's Netflix login info if you have to. Part of what makes this story enjoyable is it's slow delivery of characters' origins, motivations and expected tropes.

I will say that they are able to avoid taking a stand on the afterlife by misdirecting audiences with a mind-blowing twist. Yes, even if you begin to grow tired of the droll film, it's worth sticking around for the "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" style ending with a "Fight Club" level twist — only it's even less predictable, which is why I don't feel bad saying it. You'll literally never see it coming.

When the credits rolled, a flush of overwhelming emotion came over me in which I truly cherished my loved ones, and oddly, life. In fact, the title "The Discovery," might not be about the film at all, but about the self-discovery it forces onto its audience.



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STUDENT ART

Exploring the Waters of campus art

Childhood memories and a love for nature inspire artist Brittany Waters.

By Jordan Py
Staff Writer

Jade Inglada | Daily 49er

Senior Brittany Waters handcrafted baby sea turtles from clay for her beach-themed art exhibit "More Than a Sandbox."

Cal State Long Beach senior and sculptural ceramic artist Brittany Waters finds nature to be a key tool for her artwork. Growing up in northern California, where she was surrounded by trees, she now finds herself in Long Beach where she finds inspirations in the beach, the ocean and its inhabitants.

"My art is always really influenced by the nature around me," Waters said. "I used to live in Sacramento and I would go on a lot of nature hikes in forested areas, and then I moved to a beach town and now I'm inspired by sea creatures."

Waters' current art exhibit is called "More Than a Sandbox," where she has set up a beach scene of over 100 baby sea turtles, handcrafted from clay, making the perilous journey from their nest into their new home the ocean. Waters talks about what inspired her to create this scene and how Californians can witness this miracle on local beaches.

"There actually are green sea turtles in Long Beach," Waters said. "They are in the mouth of the San Gabriel river and there is a bunch of adolescent and adult sea turtles. They estimate there is about 40-50 of them — but no babies, just adolescent adults. The reason is the power plants on each side of the river expel warm water, and it creates a safe inlet with no natural predators."

Waters made "More Than a Sandbox" not just because of her love for sea turtles, but as a statement on how a community can clean up their beaches and treat them more humanely rather than as a big play ground. By doing that, communities in the Long Beach area could see baby sea turtles making their journey to the ocean.

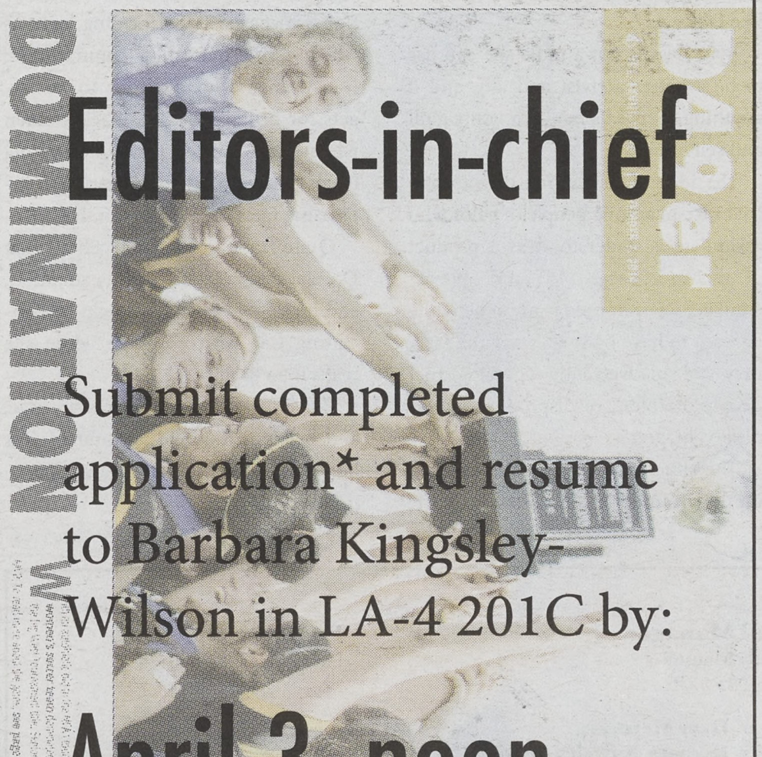
"I kind of wanted to remind Long Beach, which is a beach town, that the beaches can be more," Waters said.

Waters credits her current attachment to sea turtles to a childhood snorkeling trip in Hawai'i.

"This one does have a lot of personal ties to childhood memories of sea turtles," Waters said. "The first time I was in the ocean was in Hawai'i, my first time being on the beach was in Hawai'i, the sea turtle was the first wild animal I had ever seen."

Part of Waters' installation is a wall covered in photos chronicling the process of making the clay turtles, each of which took roughly 40 minutes to complete. Here, her aim is to guide viewers into the larger exhibit step by step.

Waters' exhibit can be seen in the Dutzi gallery from April 2 - 6, noon to 5 p.m., and noon to 8 p.m. Wednesday.



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RACE & GENDER

'Transracial' – more like transphobic

Rachel Dolezal continues to refuse her white identity by claiming that racial fluidity is more stigmatized than gender fluidity.

By Hanna Suarez
Opinions Editor

Dolezal wipes away tears in an interview with BBC Newsnight as she explains how she was punished for being different.

BBC Newsnight

When it comes to staying informed, I sometimes find it difficult to discern what is worth my time and attention. Advice to be aware of all sides in the name of "objective truth," however, becomes a trial when the subject involves topics which are morally and culturally out of bounds. Let's take the person formerly known as Rachel Dolezal as an example, who was revealed to be white after attempting to pass as a black woman.

According to a March article by the New York Post, the former NAACP chairperson and black studies professor at Eastern Washington University recently changed her name to Nkechi Amare Diallo – Nkechi meaning "gift of God," or "what God has given," in the Igbo language. Current news circulating does not acknowledge this change in moniker, in order to remain consistent with the initial coverage and it's ongoing story, and we will continue to regard her as the woman formerly known as Dolezal.

In fact, more recently, Dolezal has opined in an interview with Salon magazine that her story is comparable to that of Caitlyn Jenner. Dolezal says, "there's more stigma for race fluidity than gender fluidity right now, and I don't think anybody would deny that."

As a multi-ethnic, Latinx, queer-identified person I deny this, absolutely. For one, in referencing "gender fluidity," she opts for a term that is less politicized, but as a so-called activist she should know that black trans women and transwomen of color are the most vulnerable members of society. This year alone, at least seven trans women have been murdered, all of them transwomen of color.

That Dolezal uses the word "stigma" is also a very telling indicator; she is speaking from her experience and the backlash her actions and words are facing. "Stigma" against transgender people is more often state sanctioned discrimination via legislation and lack of rights and resources, bullying, harassment, violence, murder and suicide.

All Dolezal has to deal with is the criticism by race and gender scholars, activists and everyone in between, proving how far removed she is from the world of identity politics and the pedestal of privilege from where she projects.

If you ask me, the only thing Dolezal has in common with Jenner is that they are both white women who think they can speak for marginalized peoples, with whose real experiences they are completely out of touch.

In a tearful, March interview with BBC Newsnight, Dolezal disturbingly mirrors perspectives of children who deal with gender dysphoria or sexual questioning. She says, "I had to constantly mask and subordinate and repress part of myself to kind of, survive, socially." She goes on to victimize herself and says she was punished for "being myself," or "being creative or spontaneous.

"I hadn't intentionally been doing something wrong or evil or terrible, it was just um...I had stepped out of line. I hadn't done what a girl should do and somehow [had] been immodest or sensual or something. And I had to be punished for that because I was being raised to believe that the only goal for me in life was to get married and bear children and be a good wife and mother."

The double standards made for women in American society are very harmful, and gendered violence is continually perpetuated because of the way women are subjugated in the family and workplace.

Still, Dolezal is very clearly conflating feelings of gender dysphoria and cultural and racial appropriation. She uses blackness as a way to defy white American values and expresses it in a way that also insults and injures LGBTQ people, especially vulnerable youth who actually struggle to transition or navigate their identities for fear of being kicked out and abandoned.

Just because race has been socially constructed to benefit white men and dehumanize black and brown people does not mean that is something that can be appropriated by white saviors like Dolezal.

Blackness is not a mule she can use to be a better activist and ally, and if anything, it reveals her own white guilt and self hatred.

The idea of self hatred or internalized racism among people of color who assimilate is understood as a product of racism in society. When people assimilate, when people want to be white or want to have light-skinned children, they are inadvertently agreeing that people of color are disproportionately disadvantaged.

The situation is flipped for Dolezal, on the grounds that she "stands on the black side...philosophically, politically, socially," but she does not have lived experience to be a spokesperson for black women and communities.

There is a difference between allyship and appropriation. If Dolezal wants to continue to be an ally to black people, she needs to quit the botched box braids and perms and focus on promoting and supporting black scholars and activists who are often left unheard.

These are heinous acts of victimization which she is performing, actions which mock mourning communities; transwomen who continue to be targets for brutal violence, black women who face state violence by police, young black girls who are disappearing at increasing rates in Washington, D.C.

Quite frankly, I do not believe that Dolezal deserves any of this attention, and major news sources might be benefitting her with coverage while she reaps the visibility.

But she has crossed the line this time, and needs to be held accountable for her gross inconsideration and appropriation.

Daily 49er

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TRACK & FIELD

Throwing her way to success

After giving the sports a chance, junior transfer has made an consistent force for LBSU.

By Connie Ojeda
Staff Writer

Jose De Castro| Daily 49er

In three meets so far this season, junior thrower De'Ondra Young has collected two 1st place finishes in the hammer event. The Palomar College transfer eyes a trip to the national championship.

Making an immediate impact for the Long Beach State Track and Field team, thrower De'Ondra Young has set new LBSU records and is certain her talent will land her a spot at next year's nationals.

Young, who has been a thrower since her freshman year of high school, says prior to joining Long Beach State's track and field team in fall 2016, she had never practiced weight throws, which has recently become her biggest success.

"I picked [the weight throw] up once in October, did some drills and then did not start practicing it until January," said Young: "In the first meet, I beat the record, in the second meet I beat it again, and in the third I beat it again, so I feel like that was my biggest success."

Young transferred to Long Beach State in fall 2016 from Palomar College, located in San Diego County, where she participated and ranked at state levels in both the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference championship and the Southern California Championships.

Despite beating numerous records and having a well-established trajectory in the sport, Young admits track and field was not always on her mind; in fact, her ninth-grade friends could be credited for first introducing the idea to her.

"My friends were like, 'hey, let's get into track,' and I was like, 'alright, but I am definitely not going to be a runner," she said. "So, I started throwing and I did not realize I was really good until our first meet."

Young's former coach from Palomar College, Whitney DeWeese, could also be credited for helping shape her into the thrower she is today.

DeWeese, who currently coaches shot put, hammer throws and discus at Palomar College, is someone Young still shares her accomplishments with.

Young says DeWeese is somewhat of a mentor to her as she also knows what it is like to be college athlete, after having attended Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where she used to throw discus.

Achieving the success Young has encountered has not always come easy to her – the transition from Palomar's track and field team to Long Beach State's was quite a challenge during her first semester on the new team.

"My biggest challenge has been getting used to weight lifting every single day," said Young. "We did a little bit of weight lifting at Palomar, but it was not as intense it is here."

Young says, being that her body was not used to the intensity of the daily Olympic-style workout routines, her sleeping pattern was initially affected, something her body has since gotten used to.

Despite the challenges of a tough transition and getting bumped off the list for this year's nationals, Young's motivation for the sport and consecutive wins in the weight throw category are sure to guarantee her a spot in next year's national championship.

"I'll be there next year," said Young.

50. APARTMENTS / HOUSES WANTED

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BASEBALL

Dirtbags seek redemption against USC

Jose De Castro | Daily 49er

With 3-1 record, junior pitcher AJ Jones has a 3.75 ERA and given up 8 runs so far this season.

LBSU will look to continue its strong play when they host the Trojans Tuesday night at Blair Field.

By Luke Ramirez
Assistant Sports Editor

The Long Beach State Dirtbags will take on USC at Blair Field tonight at 6 with a bad taste in their mouths after losing to the Trojans earlier this season.

The last time these two teams met, LBSU (16-11) was coming off of a series loss to Oklahoma, but got an excellent pitching performance from freshman John Castro. The right hander threw 7 scoreless innings while striking out six batters and the Dirtbags took a 2-0 lead to the bottom of the eighth inning.

Lars Nootbaar, USC's sophomore center fielder, came up with two outs and a man on base and hit a 1-1 fastball over the right field wall to tie the game.

"It was tough when he hit that home run," junior right fielder Brock Lundquist said. "We battled through that whole game and all we could do from there was try to score more runs."

USC (15-11) went on to win the game in the bottom of the 11th inning after a walk-off single from junior shortstop Frankie Rios. The heartbreaking loss will serve as extra motivation for a Dirtbag team that seems to have hit their stride.

"The whole team is in a good spot right now," Lundquist said. "We're going to come out and compete just like we have been."

LBSU has already started off Big West Conference play as they took two out of three games from UCSB on the road last weekend.

Lundquist received Big West Player of the week recognition after hitting .500 with seven RBIs and six runs scored.

"He is too good of a player to continue to struggle the way he has so far," head coach Troy Buckley said. "It was only a matter of time before he broke out, whether he was batting first or seventh."

Lundquist has found a home in the lead-off spot, where he will likely stay until junior second baseman Jarren Duran returns to the field after suffering two fractures to his face during the Fullerton series. Duran was able to practice Monday while wearing protective gear and is day-to-day.

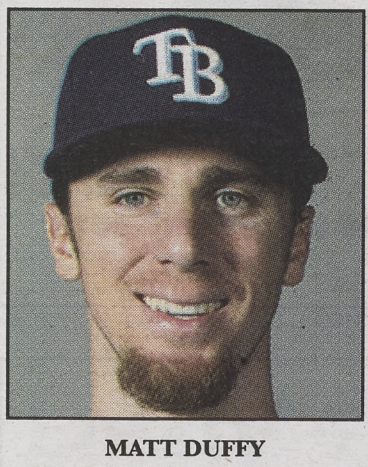
"I felt like I was seeing pitches a lot better and was able to lay off the ones that are out of the zone," Lundquist said. "When guys were on base, I was able to battle through my at bats to drive them in."

LBSU's probable starter is junior AJ Jones (0-1, 3.75 ERA), who would make his fourth start of the season after missing the first part of 2017 with a shoulder injury. Jones threw 6.0 innings, gave up one earned run and struck out six batters en route to a no decision against Cal on March 27.

The Trojans' probable pitcher is junior Mason Perryman (2-0, 0.93 ERA), who threw 4.0 innings giving up two runs on five hits against LBSU on Feb. 21.

We represent

At the start of the 2017 MLB season, these 10 former Long Beach State Dirtbags were on Opening Day rosters.



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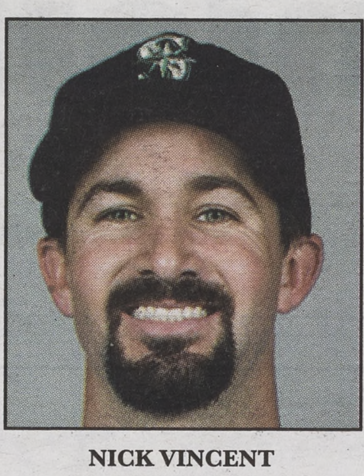

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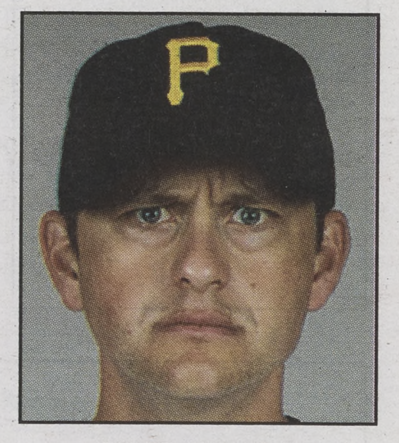

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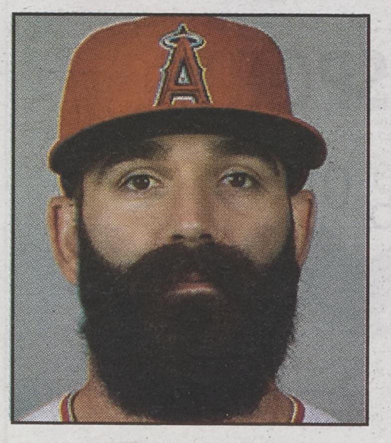

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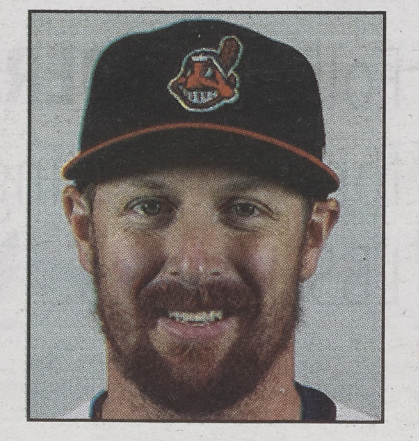

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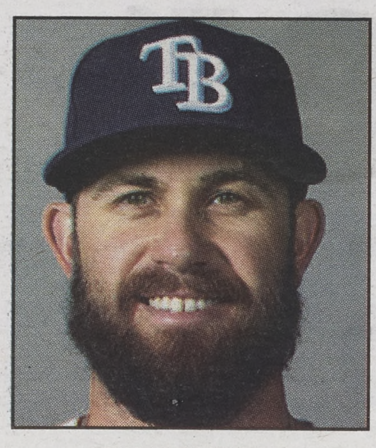

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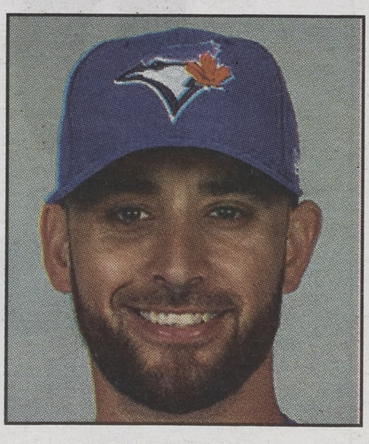
KANSAS CITY ROYALS



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